



SOUTH CENTRAL REGION

MISSOURI CAREER GRADES

SEPTEMBER 2022

Sales & Related Occupations

Projected to have the most annual total job openings

over 800

Food Preparation & Serving Related Occupations

Most grade A and B annual openings

over 600

Management and Business & Financial Operations Occupations

Grade A and B Jobs Concentration

100%

Career Grades are a tool to help make comparisons between occupations. Each occupation is assigned a letter grade from A+ to F based on outlook over the next decade. **Grades are based on a combination of projected total job openings, projected percent growth, and average wages.** Occupations with a grade of A or A+ have above average results in at least two of the three variables, while occupations with a grade of B or B+ have above average results in at least one of the three variables.

The South Central region is projected to have almost 5,500 annual job openings through 2030. The vast majority (97%) of these openings are in A, B, and C grade occupations. In general, higher graded occupations earn more and have higher growth rates. Grade A occupations earn an average wage that is 18 percent higher than the average wage for all occupations, and are projected to grow more than four times faster than the average growth rate.

Annual Job Openings and Wages by Career Grades

Grade A

881 Job Openings
\$45,517 Average Wage

Grade B

2,525 Job Openings
\$42,042 Average Wage

Grade C

1,969 Job Openings
\$36,300 Average Wage

Top Outlook Occupation Groups

Major Occupation Group	Total Openings	A & B Openings	A & B Concentration
Food Preparation & Serving Related	731	660	90%
Healthcare Support	594	562	95%
Transportation & Material Moving	550	497	90%
Production	526	370	70%
Sales & Related	814	193	24%
Management	178	166	93%
Education, Training, & Library	278	162	58%
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance	161	161	100%
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	204	138	68%
Business & Financial Operations	142	131	92%
Installation, Maintenance, & Repair	168	120	71%
Personal Care & Service	54	49	91%
Community & Social Service	95	47	49%
Office & Administrative Support	705	44	6%
Protective Service	89	37	42%

South Central Top Grade Jobs

Now Typically requires short-term on-the-job training, little to no experience, and/or a high school diploma

Grade	Title	Annual Openings	2020-2030 Growth Rate	Average Wages
A	Home Health & Personal Care Aides 🔥	549	16.9%	\$24,168
B	Fast Food & Counter Workers 🔥	331	10.2%	\$22,848
B	Retail Salespersons 🔥	180	3.1%	\$29,201
B+	Waiters & Waitresses	165	13.7%	\$20,286
B+	Stockers & Order Fillers 🔥	151	10.8%	\$26,443
B	Janitors & Cleaners, Except Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners 🔥	105	1.8%	\$25,779
B+	Passenger Vehicle Drivers, Except Bus Drivers, Transit & Intercity	84	11.2%	\$22,742
B	Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand 🔥	75	5.9%	\$26,237
B+	Light Truck or Delivery Services Drivers	62	11.8%	\$34,083
B+	Hosts & Hostesses, Restaurant, Lounge, & Coffee Shop	57	20.1%	\$21,243

Next Typically requires non-degree certificate, associate degree, apprenticeship, some experience, or moderate- to long-term training

Grade	Title	Annual Openings	2020-2030 Growth Rate	Average Wages
B	Miscellaneous Assemblers & Fabricators	226	6.8%	\$31,924
A	Cooks, Restaurant	107	42.8%	\$23,495
B	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers 🔥	86	-2.0%	\$39,355
B+	Maintenance & Repair Workers, General 🔥	61	8.4%	\$35,353
A	First-Line Supervisors of Production & Operating Workers	51	11.4%	\$47,207
B+	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, & Brazers	34	18.4%	\$35,023
B	Police & Sheriff's Patrol Officers	32	1.9%	\$44,384
B	Multiple Machine Tool Setters, Op., & Tenders, Metal & Plastic	23	23.8%	\$33,365
B	First-Line Supervisors of Mechanics, Installers, & Repairers	20	10.1%	\$51,442
B+	Electrical Power-Line Installers & Repairers 🔥	19	3.4%	\$86,437

Later Typically requires a bachelor's degree or higher

Grade	Title	Annual Openings	2020-2030 Growth Rate	Average Wages
A+	General & Operations Managers 🔥	103	13.0%	\$69,253
B+	Registered Nurses 🔥	92	2.4%	\$60,841
B	Substitute Teachers, Short-Term	86	2.9%	\$30,647
B	Middle School Teachers, Except Special & Career/Tech. Edu.	76	-1.9%	\$48,464
B+	Accountants & Auditors	45	8.8%	\$53,313
B	Child, Family, & School Social Workers	43	6.2%	\$36,439
A+	Medical & Health Services Managers 🔥	23	21.6%	\$99,415
B	Project Mngmt. Specialists & Business Op. Specialists, All Other	22	4.1%	\$79,823
B	Human Resources Specialists	20	8.5%	\$54,373
A+	Nurse Practitioners	14	23.0%	\$110,269

🔥 Flame icon indicates occupations with high numbers of online job ad postings in 2021.

Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS) program. Occupational projections developed by the Missouri Economic Research and Information Center (MERIC). Lightcast™. Job opening and growth rate data is based on sum of published employment.

This workforce solution was funded by a grant awarded by the US Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The solution was created by the grantee and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the US Department of Labor. The Department of Labor makes no guarantees, warranties, or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information, including any information on linked sites and including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy continued availability or ownership. This product is copyrighted by the institution that created it. Internal use by an organization and/or personal use by an individual for non-commercial purposes is permissible. All other uses require the prior authorization of the copyright owner.